

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

October 22, 2002

Number: **INFO 2002-0237**  
Release Date: 12/31/2002  
UILC 1362.00-00

GENIN-148271-02  
CC:PSI:1

Dear [REDACTED]:

We are responding to correspondence, submitted on your behalf by [REDACTED], requesting automatic relief to establish S corporation status effective as of January 1, 2000. Based on the information provided, it appears that you mailed an election but the Internal Revenue Service failed to receive it in a timely manner. Under Revenue Procedure 97-48, the IRS may grant certain taxpayers automatic relief for a late S corporation election. However, because the IRS notified you about the Form 2553 deficiency within 6 months of receiving your 2000 Form 1120S tax return, you are ineligible for such automatic relief. Although we are unable to process your request as submitted, this letter provides information relating to correcting your situation.

Announcement 97-4 (copy enclosed) provides guidance on seeking relief for late S corporation elections. Generally, to request relief for a late S corporation election you must request a private letter ruling from the National Office. The procedures for requesting a private letter ruling are set out in Revenue Procedure 2002-1 (copy enclosed). In addition, taxpayers must submit a user fee along with their ruling request. The standard user fee for a private letter ruling is \$6,000. However, taxpayers with gross income of less than \$1 million on their tax return for the most recent 12-month taxable period qualify for a **reduced user fee** in the amount of \$500. If you qualify for the reduced fee, you must include a statement certifying your corporate gross income for the last 12-month taxable year. Otherwise, the higher fee will apply.

If you decide to submit a formal request for a private letter ruling, please review Appendix B of Rev. Proc. 2002-1, and be certain to include all required procedural statements, the proper user fee and any documents that substantiate your intent to be an S corporation from inception. Please refer your request to our office by adding the following to the address:

Attn: CC:PA:T  
P.O. Box 7604  
Ben Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044

Direct to: CC:PSI:1  
Room 5002

In addition, the IRS has developed two new CD-ROMs to help educate small business owners on their tax responsibilities: (1) *Introduction to Federal Taxes for Small Business/Self-Employed*; and (2) *A Virtual Small Business Workshop*. These two CD-ROMs are free and can be ordered by calling 1-800-829-3676. The IRS also provides a special website, [www.irs.gov/smallbiz](http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz) which is dedicated to providing information to small business taxpayers.

Please keep this letter with your tax records and feel free to provide a copy of it to your authorized representative. We hope that the above information proves helpful.

Sincerely yours,

**/s/ Dianna K. Miosi**

DIANNA K. MIOSI  
Chief, Branch 1  
Associate Chief Counsel  
(Passthroughs and Special Industries)

Enclosures:

Announcement 97-4  
Rev. Proc. 2002-1  
Copy of Submission